



*Rutland Regional Medical
Center*

Marrow Donor Program

160 Allen St, Rutland, VT 05701

Phone: (802) 747-6267

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I become a donor?

RRMC, and our affiliate programs, will be holding several testing drives in 2006. To get your name on the National Registry, attend one of these drives.

What is the cost to be a donor?

There is no cost to the potential donor. The cost for the tissue testing that places you on the Registry is covered by our programs. If you are selected as a donor, the National Marrow Donor Program pays all other costs. These include one person to accompany you and will include hotel, meals, gas, child care, pet care and any other expenses you may have associated with being a volunteer donor.

Who is eligible to donate?

To be eligible to be a donor you must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and be in good general health. There are some health reasons that would require a potential donor to be deferred from the program, such as back problems, asthma, and heart problems.

What is the procedure like?

The first step is to attend a drive and get your name on the National Registry. If you are selected as a potential match, you will be called back for additional testing. If you are found to be a final match, you would travel to DHMC for the donation. The procedure involves the bone marrow being taken from the back of your pelvic bone by a needle. There is no incision, and no stitches, to recover from. You may choose either general or local anesthesia. Plan on spending the night at DHMC.

Does marrow donation hurt?

Following the procedure, donors can expect to feel some soreness in the lower back for a few days. Previous donors have said that the more you move around after your donation, the better you feel. There are no stitches to heal from and most donors are back to their usual routine in a few days.

Where can I find more information?

You can find more information about RRMC's Marrow Donor Program on the RRMC web site, by picking up one of the pamphlets available in the racks outside Public Relations at RRMC, by calling Kerry Ellis (ext 6267) or Irene Dazzi (ext 1649), or by emailing them at kellis@rrmc.org or idazzi@rrmc.org.

For more information on the Champlain Valley Marrow Donor Program, located in Burlington, VT, call Jennifer St.Peter at 802-355-9863, or email her at stpeterjennifer@yahoo.com.

For more information on the Windsor County Marrow Donor Program, located in Springfield, VT, call Angela Kelley at 802-885-3157, or email her at Kelley@vermontel.net.

For more information on the National Marrow Donor Program, check out their web site at <http://www.marrow.org>. or call them at 1-800-MARROW-2.

I want to be a volunteer donor. Sign me up!

To sign up to participate in a testing drive, call or email one of the people listed above. You will be contacted to verify your registration.

Is the testing drive open to the community?

The drives are open to anyone who would like to be a volunteer donor. If you know of a company or group who may be interested in participating as a group, please have them give us a call. We have lots of printed material to share and are willing to go talk to any group that's interested.

For specific questions not addressed above, you may contact the National Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-MARROW-2.
